

The Romulus News

APRIL 23, 1999 – MAY 6, 1999

"the little paper"

VOLUME 12 NUMBER 19

Timely Tidbits ...

Used-book Sale

The annual Friends of the Romulus Public Library Used-book Sale will be held at the Library (11121 South Wayne Road, next to City Hall) Monday–Wednesday, April 26–28, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Saturday, May 1 ("Bag Day" – fill a bag for \$1.50), from 12 to 5 p.m. For information, call the Library (734-942-7589).

Craft Sale at RHS

Romulus High School's Class of 2002 will host a Spring Craft Sale fund-raiser in the High School cafeteria on Saturday, April 24, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Besides a larger and more diverse selection of arts and crafts, the event also will feature spirit items from the school store and homemade soup from a refreshment stand sponsored by the sophomore class. Door prizes will be awarded throughout the day.

Hot Jazz at the "Nest"

On Saturday, May 15, the cafeteria at Romulus High School will be transformed into "The Eagles' Nest" – the hottest jazz club in town. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m.; dancing – to the Romulus Jazz Band's performance of the classic song stylings of yesterday and the smooth jazz sounds of today – will follow. Refreshments will be offered throughout the evening for a nominal charge.

Tickets (\$12 for adults; \$6.50 for students and seniors; and \$3.50 for children up to age five) will be sold at the door, or they may be purchased in advance by calling 734-941-2170, ext. 501.

"Well" Public Hearing

The Task Force on Commercial Hazardous Waste Disposal Wells, chaired by Representative Raymond Basham (D–Taylor), will hold its first public hearing in the City Council Chambers of Taylor City Hall (located at 23555 Goddard Road, east of Telegraph) on Monday, April 26, at 7 p.m.

For more information, contact Basham at 517-373-0852. □

Romulus Begins Switch to Broadband

By Kristi Stephens

MediaOne's switch to broadband – with its attendant improvement in number and quality of services offered – has finally begun in Romulus.

"I've taken calls from a number of people who got a big surprise when they turned their televisions to a particular channel, looking for a favorite program, only to find that the channel had changed," said Dolores Witzgall, a member of the Romulus Cable Commission. "Other residents, who don't yet have the new service, have been asking when the change-over will be complete."

Unfortunately, spokespersons for MediaOne are unable to provide their cable subscribers with a definitive answer to the question.

"Our entire team of technicians is aggressively working on the switch," explained Paula Peters, MediaOne's Corporate Communications Manager, "but the unpredictability of weather conditions and other pertinent factors makes it impossible to give our customers a firm date on completion."

"What we do know for sure is this: subscribers will immediately notice a cleaner, crisper picture and higher quality sound, and they'll enjoy a more reliable system as well," she continued. "Plus, MediaOne's Digital NexTV service will immediately become available to our customers upon rebuild completion. Finally, once our new Broadband network is in place, we'll be able to start offering our entire range of communication products such as high-speed Internet access and, eventually, local telephone service."

Concerning immediate changes, Peters was more specific.

"Our Romulus customers will enjoy a significant increase in the number of channels to choose from," she stated. "Among the new offerings will be 'basic' stations such as Bravo, the History Channel, and the Food Channel, as well as 'premium' stations like Starz! and Encore."

To give subscribers some idea about how MediaOne's new rates will compare with the old ones, Peters cited "basic cable" costs.

"Under the new format – for a package of the Basic 1, 2, and 3 channels (which includes several new stations compared to the old format) – our customers will pay \$28.36 – an increase of roughly two dollars," she said. □

Arrival of Broadband Means New Channel Lineup for Romulus

CH.	NETWORK ¹	CH.	NETWORK
02	WJBK-2 / FOX ¹	41	MSNBC ³
03	Prevue Channel ¹	42	Discovery Channel ³
04	WDIV-4 / NBC ¹	43	History Channel ³
05	HBO	44	Bravo ³
06	WTVS-56 / PBS ¹	45	A & E ³
07	WXYZ-7 / ABC ¹	46	American Movie Classics ³
08	C-SPAN 2 ¹	47	Travel Channel ³
09	CBET-9 / CBC ¹	48	Home & Garden TV ³
10	WGN-Chicago / WB ¹	49	Food Network ³
11	WPXD-31 / PAX ¹	50	FX ³
12	Government Access ¹	51	USA ³
13	WKBD-50 / UPN ¹	52	Lifetime ³
14	WWJ-62 / CBS ¹	53	FOXFamily ³
15	Sneak Prevue / Game Show ¹	54	Sci-Fi ³
16	Leased Access ¹	55	Comedy Central ³
17	Religious Access / Inspiration ¹	56	E! Entertainment Television ³
18	Public Access ¹	57	Disney ³
19	Educational Access ¹	58	Cartoon Network ³
20	WDWB-20 / WB ¹	59	Nickelodeon ³
21	The Learning Channel ¹	60	Nashville ³
22	Cinemax	61	Country Music TV ³
23	WADL-38 / IND ¹	62	BET ³
24	WGTE-30 / PBS ¹	63	VH1 ³
25	MITV / MGTV ¹	64	MTV ³
26	QVC ¹	65	Animal Planet ³
27	HSN ¹	66	Independent Film Channel
28	C-SPAN ²	67	HBO Family
29	TBS ²	68	HBO Plus
30	Weather Channel ²	69	HBO Signature
31	TNT ²	70	Starz!
32	FOX Sports Detroit ³	71	Encore
33	Speedvision ³	72	Showtime
34	ESPN Classic ³	73	The Movie Channel
35	ESPN ³	74	FXM
36	ESPN2 ³	PAY-PER-VIEW	
37	CNN ³	75	Viewer's Choice #1
38	Headline News ³	76	Viewer's Choice #2
39	CNBC ³	77	Viewer's Choice #4
40	FOX News ³	78	Hot Choice / Spice Hot

KEY: ¹=Basic 1 ²=Basic 2 ³=Basic 3 *Italics*=Premium Channel

"The Police Report"

Driver Charged in Romulus Crash

The Wayne County Prosecutor's Office has approved an 11-count warrant against Robert Deangelo Howell due to alleged actions which caused a serious-injury collision in the City of Romulus on Saturday, April 17. Howell was arraigned before 34th District Court Judge William Szlinis on Tuesday, April 20. Bond was set at \$25,000 cash/surety or 10%.

The collision, which took place at 5:45 p.m., occurred at the intersection of Wayne and Goddard roads. Reportedly, Howell – driving a maroon van southbound on Wayne Road – was traveling at a high rate of speed and in a reckless manner. When Howell drove through a red traffic signal at the Wayne/Goddard intersection, he crashed into the rear of a Ford Escort that was stopped at the light. Of the Escort's six occupants (four adults and two children), five received serious injuries. Six-year-old Kevin Gibson's were the most severe (he is currently in a coma at University of Michigan Hospital); the others were treated and released.

"Our investigation found that Mr. Howell was the driver of the vehicle," stated Executive Lieutenant Eric D. Painter of the Romulus Police Department. "Officer Rose Cooper observed him driving recklessly as he moved southbound on Wayne Road north of I-94. Officer Cooper activated her emergency equipment and turned to follow the vehicle. By the time she got under the I-94 overpass, she observed the accident scene ahead. Interviews with a passenger in the van determined that Mr. Howell had been drinking, and, when he saw the police car, he sped up. He ignored passenger requests to slow down and warnings that there were vehicles stopped ahead."

Howell was charged with five counts of "OUIL causing serious injury," five counts of "fleeing police—second degree," and one count of "possession of marijuana." The OUIL charges are felonies punishable by up to five years in prison and fines of \$1,000–\$5,000; the second-degree fleeing charge is a felony punishable by up to 10 years in prison, a \$5,000 fine, and revocation of driving privileges; the marijuana charge is a one-year misdemeanor, which provides for a \$2,000 fine plus driving-privilege sanctions.

Howell is being transferred to the Wayne County Jail pending his preliminary examination, which has been set for Wednesday, April 28.

First Annual RPD vs. RMS Volleyball Match Ends In Draw

On Friday, March 12, a group of Community Neighborhood Services Unit personnel, led by Officer Mike Jones, answered the challenge to play a volleyball match against a team of Romulus Middle School staff members, led by Principal Ed Clark. Held in the gymnasium of the Middle School, the match was attended by the entire student body and staff.

The first match saw the Police Department's unit surge into the lead on the strength of Romulus High School Liaison Officer John Smagner's strong serves. The Middle School staff refused to surrender, however, and continued to battle. Finally, strong spikes from Officers Joe "Slam" Richardson and Rose "Too Tall" Cooper were too much for the Middle School crew, and the police unit won by a score of 15–10.

In the second match, the PD unit again got off to an early lead, but the School staffers – motivated by the sup-

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Two New Officers Sworn In



The Romulus Police Department's two newest officers – Don Hopkins (left) and David Salamas – were sworn in on March 29. Their addition brings the Department's manpower level up to 74 sworn officers.

The Romulus News

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RHS Students Investigate Careers in Investment



These students in Romulus High School teacher Carl Lowe's "career exploration" class are learning about the world of Wall Street.

By Kristi Stephens

If you're looking to learn the long and the short of selling short in the world of high finance, don't short-sell the "at-risk" students in Romulus High School (RHS) teacher Carl Lowe's "career exploration" class.

Now in their ninth week of playing the Michigan Stock Market Game, the mostly freshmen students spend each Wednesday carefully poring over the business section of the newspaper, assessing their gains (or losses) since the previous week, and deciding whether their next move should be to buy, sell, or just sit tight.

"I played a mock stock-market game when I was in high school, and it was a really enjoyable learning experience," said Lowe, who is now in his third year of teaching at RHS. "When I saw a newspaper notice recruiting high-school classes from throughout the state for a similar game, I jumped at the chance for my kids to find out more about the world of business."

When the Stock Market Game began back in mid February, Lowe's class was broken into groups of three to five students, and each group was given \$100,000 in mock money to invest in the stock market. Each week since then, after deciding on their transactions, the students have filled out forms that Lowe then mails to the monitoring agency, which charts and reports the Romulus students' progress as compared with that of other students from metropolitan Detroit and throughout Michigan.

Lowe has been pleasantly surprised with the results thus far.

"Most of the students have done remarkably well with their investments," Lowe explained. "In fact, at the end of the second week, one of the teams had

achieved a first-place ranking – not just in our region, but in the entire state."

Since that second week, the team of Anton Herrington, John Williams, and Alex Russell has dropped somewhat in rank (they're now third out of the 187 groups in the region; 17th in the state), but the three already have enough business savvy to realize that fluctuation is the name of the stock-market game.

"In the beginning, when we were trying to decide which stocks to buy, we did a sort of survey – checking out which brands of clothes seemed the most popular with kids, that sort of thing," said Herrington. "We also thought it was important to have different kinds of stocks. We started out with Ford, AT&T, Ken Cole, Gucci, and Gannett."

"Most of our stocks performed pretty well," Williams added, "but we had to get rid of AT&T. We were losing a lot of money on it. Right now, we're talking about buying Gap stock, instead. Kids everywhere spend a lot of money on clothes."

Although students like Herrington and Williams say that they are enjoying the wheelings and dealings of the stock market, and would even consider making modest investments of their own when they become adults, others say that their experience with the game has shown them that they would never be comfortable with the process in the real world.

"It's too risky," said Bobby Reifsnnyder, who – along with fellow group members Melissa Baccus, Christy Jones, Tushandra Arnold, and Desirae Butler – ranked 32nd out of 187 in week nine of the game. "I'm not the kind of person who would take a chance on losing everything. I'm too cautious, too conservative for that."

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Students Tour "Wick World"



Teacher Kim Panek and her first-grade students went all-out for their presentation on Egypt. They even had a mummy (pictured just to the right of Panek).

Students, staff, and visitors who participated in Wick Elementary's Multicultural Fair, held March 30–31, had a wonderful opportunity to learn about the music, dancing, stories, clothing, language, life-style, and flags of countries from around the world. For two days, each classroom was transformed into a small slice of some exotic locale.

An open house for parents, held on Tuesday, March 30, was heavily attended. Among the most popular of the evening's events was a presentation of musical selections such as "Sakura" ("Cherry Blooms"), "Kagoma, Kagome" ("Bird in a Cage"), and "Alzu Kamoni Uta" ("Alzu Lullaby") – all songs of Japan which were performed by Diane Golka's fifth-grade class – as well as "Ciranda" ("Circle Song") from Brazil (Tavia Redmond's sixth-graders) and Jamaica's "Water Came a Me Eye" (Lisa Kerr's sixth-graders).

On Wednesday, March 31, students obtained mock passports – courtesy of the "U.S. Embassy" (the school's main office) and then spent the day travelling from classroom to classroom, "touring" the various foreign countries under the direction of student announcer/"travel guide" Nathan Abraham.

Organizers of the event (fifth-grade teacher Thomas Gibb-Randall and members of the School Improvement Team) were pleased with the event's success, as was Principal Debbie Juriga.

"All aspects of our curriculum were integrated into our preparations for the Multicultural Fair," Juriga explained. "Our theme approach encompassed the use of language, science, and other skills."

"By offering students a chance for a little cultural enrichment," she continued, "we left them with the message that differences are okay; that it's good to embrace diversity." □



First-grade teacher Dorothy West teaches students how to say their name in Spanish.

Wright Is Capitol Scholar



State Representative Raymond E. Basham (left) invited students (from left) Heather Wright (Romulus High School), Becky Wenglinski (Taylor Kennedy High School), and Steven Sims (Taylor Truman High School) to spend a day with him in Lansing on Tuesday, February 2, to get a firsthand lesson in State government through the Capitol Scholars Program.

"The Police Report"

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port of an obviously biased and very loud crowd – stormed back to pull off a 15-13 win on the strength of science-teacher Kim Jensen's strong serves and play.

The third game had just begun, and the School crew had taken a 3-1 lead, when time was called due to the end of the school day.

Besides Officers Cooper, Jones, Richardson, and Smagner, the Police Department's team consisted of Lieutenant Jim Rafalski and Officers Carolyn Huggins, Chris Imperati, Don Leonard (K-9 Officer), and Theresa Smagner.

Joining Clark and Jensen on the Middle School's team were Cindy Bondy (speech teacher), Corrinne Filbert (para-professional), Teneka Johnson (language-arts teacher), Bill Kinney (math teacher), Amy Lusher (school psychologist), Brian McCallister (language-arts teacher), Chris Powers (Assistant Principal), Jody Stockdale (secretary), and Megan Wilson (Romulus High School co-op student).

Basketball Game Raised Money for Varsity and JV Football at RHS

On Thursday, April 1, coaches and seniors from Romulus High School played a benefit basketball game against officers from the Romulus Police Department to raise money for the High School's varsity and junior-varsity football programs. The game, which netted approximately \$1,200, ended in a 69-60 victory for the school's squad.

Coaching the school's team was varsity football head coach Mark Wood-

son and JV coach John Moomaw. Players included assistant football coaches Mercer Bryson, Wade Cook, Avery Taylor, Shelby Johnson, Stevie Robinson, Matt Ladach, and Dave McIntire. Additional players were Athletic Director Jesse Meriweather and senior football players John Blackman, Robert Boykins, and Chavis Hamby.

Officers Christopher Imperati and Michael Jones were the coaches for the Romulus Police Department's team. Players included Officers Terry Balewski, Hussein Farhat, Rich Feagin, Chris Hines, Damian Hull, Rebecca Peare, Matt Robertson, Darrin Shelby, Michael Smith, Derrick Turner, and Dale Van Horn.

Refereeing the game were Romulus Recreation Director/Romulus Board of Education Trustee Debbie Dick and Inkster Police Sergeant James Horn. □



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Romulus Middle School Olympians Bring Home Two Gold Medals

For the first time ever, 12 students from Romulus Middle School represented their city at the Science Olympiad, held at Redford Thurston High School on Saturday, March 20. Although the competition was difficult among the 27 participating schools, Romulus came proudly home with a total of five medals.

Kim Jensen, head of the Middle School's science department, and Sharon Grandell, science teacher at the Middle School, reported that students won medals in the following events.

"Naked Egg Drop"

Jesse Patterson and Kristina Rafalski took first place in this event, which requires two students to construct a device to catch an egg from four platforms of increasing height.

"Science Clue"

Jesse Patterson also won a gold medal – this time with teammate Lucas Kooistra – in the "Science Clue" portion of the Olympics. The event is similar to the television show *Jeopardy!*

"Write It, Do It"

Josephine Denys and Sara Schultz finished fourth in the "Write

It, Do It" event, which requires one student to write up an experiment and the other to construct the necessary materials using items such as toothpicks.

"Surfing the Net"

Josephine Denys also took sixth place in "Surfing the Net," an event in which students look up information on the Internet.

"Nature Quest"

Sixth-place finishes were turned in by Akeem Martin and Nicole Radford in "Nature Quests," an event which requires students to use a compass to follow directions that lead them to rocks, leaves, etc., which they must then identify.

In an interesting aside, when Andrew Rodger broke his propeller-propulsion airplane's wing on the bus ride to the competition, he repaired the plan in time to enter it anyway, and received a letter from Chuck Gaidica about the mishap.

Other Romulus Middle School students who participated in the Olympiad were: Deborah Anderson, Jacob Banks, Sabrina Gomes, Nabila Khan, and Robert Rice.

Congratulations to all. □

Baseball Teams Ready for Season Under New Coaches

Extensive preparations for the 1999 Romulus High School baseball season have been underway for some time now, according to the team's new head coach, Keith Brothers, and his assistant, Tom Patterson.

"We've been kept really busy supervising workouts, expanding the program at the Middle School, conducting youth clinics, purchasing new equipment and uniforms, and organizing fund-raisers," said Brothers.

Benefits Raise Cash for Equipment

Concerning the fund-raisers, Brothers said, "To date, we've already conducted three benefits – a 'road rally' at last fall's Pumpkin Festival, an RHS alumni baseball game, and an *ESPN Magazine* program. This has helped us afford new equipment such as an indoor pitching mound, hockey-style catcher's masks and gear, and batting helmets."

Brothers believes that the new uniforms will help to improve the team's morale and spirit.

Youth Clinics

On Saturday, March 13, JV coaches Everett Robbins, Dan Czajkowski, and Garry Harris joined Brothers and Patterson to sponsor a day-long youth clinic at the High School.

"The purpose of the clinic was to review fundamental skills for younger students interested in baseball, especially those at the middle-school level," Brothers explained. "Last January, the Romulus Board of Education approved the addition of a Middle School baseball team."

Brian McAlister, the coach of the new Middle School team, also was involved in the clinic.

Workouts

During the months of February and March, the new coaches held early-morning workouts in the gym – Tuesdays and Thursdays for pitchers and catchers; Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays for all other players. Coaches worked with no more than three players at a time during these activities so that each athlete received quality instruction.

After All the Prep: Tryouts

Finally, tryouts were held at the High School's Charley Lau Field during the week of March 15–19. Making the cut for the varsity team, which will play a 31-game schedule, were four sophomores, seven juniors, and four seniors. The JV team's members – nine freshmen and eight sophomores – will play 23 games.

At the Middle School, tryouts were held the week of April 5–9. The 10-game season will be played by a team of 11 eighth-graders and eight seventh-graders.

Play Ball!

All the hard work is already paying off: the Romulus High School varsity team has begun the season with a record of two wins and one loss.

You can show your support of this developing program by supporting activities such as fund-raisers, as well as attending the games.

For a complete schedule, contact the Athletic Office at the High School (734-941-2170). □

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Community Calendar

- **All-you-can-eat Spaghetti Dinner** – The Sumpter Township Department of Parks and Recreation is sponsoring an all-you-can-eat spaghetti-dinner fund-raiser at the Center (corner of Sumpter and Dunn roads) from 5 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, April 28. Besides spaghetti, the menu will include a garden salad, roll and butter, coffee, and dessert. Tickets (\$6 for adults; \$5 for seniors; and \$3 for children 10 and under) are available at the Belleville Chamber of Commerce and Sumpter Township Hall, as well as at the door.
- **Co-op Nursery Hosts Open House** – Huron Countryside Co-op Nursery will host its annual Open House at Miller Elementary School (located at 18955 Hannan Road, New Boston) on Wednesday, May 5, from 12 to 2 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. Parents with children ages two-and-a-half to five are welcome to bring their children and meet teacher Lois Winfield, a former kindergarten and Head Start instructor who has been with the Co-op for more than 20 years. Winfield's educational program includes art, singing, exercise, learning trips, and play, giving children an opportunity to develop skills that will give them the confidence they need for a successful school experience. For information, call Denise Marsack (734-753-5813).
- **Eagles "Lift-a-thon" Benefits RHS Football Program** – Show your support of the Romulus High School football teams by sponsoring an athlete in the upcoming Eagles "Lift-a-thon" (set for 3:30 p.m. on Friday, May 7, in the High School gymnasium) and/or making a team donation. Last season, the Eagles broke or tied more than 50 individual and team records as they worked toward their undefeated record of 9-0 for the first time ever and made the State playoffs. But if our athletic department is to maintain a competitive program that will continue to serve as the basis for our players' achievements, funding is essential. If you'd like to contribute to this worthwhile cause, call the Athletic Office at the High School (734-941-2170), or send your check or money order directly to the Football Program c/o Romulus High School, 9650 South Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174.
- **The Mayor's Chair** – The next edition of the monthly *Mayor's Chair* program will air on cable channel 40 beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 13. The program will deal with the potential problems posed by the Y2K situation and how Romulus is preparing for them. Anyone who would like to be present when the program is taped must be seated in the Council Chambers at Romulus City Hall by 6:15 p.m. Beginning at 6 p.m., home viewers can call 734-942-7571 to ask questions of the Mayor and guests.
- **Volunteer for "Clean Sweep 1999"** – Join your neighbors in cleaning up your city during the first annual City of Romulus "Clean Sweep" cleanup, set for Saturday, May 15, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Volunteers will meet at City Hall to receive supplies and assignments (each may designate the area in which he or she would like to work). For more information, or to get involved, call Romulus City Hall: 734-942-7571.
- **City-wide No-fee Yard/Garage Sale** – The annual City-wide No-fee Yard/Garage Sale has been set for Thursday, June 3, through Sunday, June 6. (If two or more days of the sale are rained out, it will be rescheduled for the following weekend.) Residents who would like to participate may sign up for their no-fee permits at the Romulus Recreation office. (Note: Permits for this sale do not count toward the three-permit-per-year maximum allowed each household by City ordinance.) Permits must be applied for no later than Friday, May 14, in order to give the organizers ample time to compile lists and make maps. Permits, maps, etc., will be available for pickup starting May 24. For information, call the Recreation office (734-942-6852).
- **Romulus Police Host Charity Golf Outing** – The Romulus Police Officers Association is inviting the public to participate in its first annual Charity Golf Outing, set for Friday, August 6, at the Shady Hollow Golf Course (located at 34777 Smith Road in Romulus). Registration will begin at 7 a.m.; the shotgun start is scheduled for 8 a.m. A \$65-per-person donation covers 18 holes of golf, cart, shirt, lunch, steak dinner, beer and soft drinks, and door prizes. Other donations of cash, gift certificates (to be used for prizes), and golf equipment are also appreciated. For information, call Officer Mike St. Andre or Officer Duane Smith at the Police Department (734-941-8400).

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to us at 941-4874; or call 941-1907 or 941-3113

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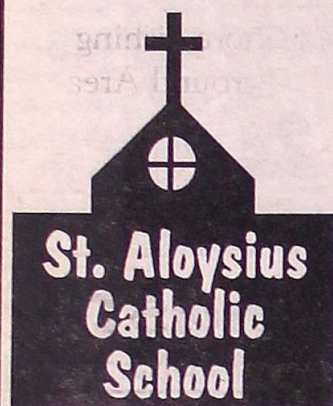
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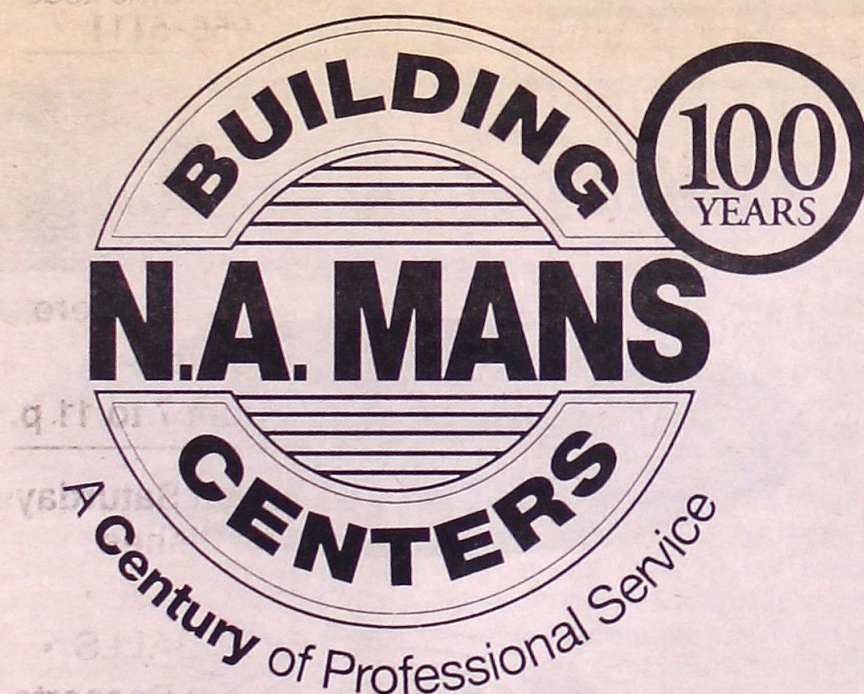
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Intergenerational Program Pairs Seniors with Students



Through their participation in an intergenerational service-learning project, (from left) senior citizen Fran Bredow, student-teacher Steven Musto, and Romulus High School sophomores Nancy Whittemore and Jim Jackson worked toward opening lines of communication between teenagers and senior citizens in order to eliminate stereotypes.

On Monday, April 12, nearly 60 Romulus High School sophomores and local senior citizens got together at the Romulus Senior Center to get to know one another, share ideas, and – in the process – eliminate some of the negative stereotypes that many teenagers and senior citizens may unwittingly harbor about each other. Organizers of the project were Linda Norman, Senior Citizens Coordinator for the City of Romulus; Kathy Hurst, Service-learning Coordinator for the Romulus Community Schools; and Steven Musto, a student teacher in the government and sociology classes of Romulus High School teacher Maxine Reed.

"It was a great success," Norman said of the meeting. "After it was over, several of my seniors remarked about how pleasant and respectful the students were. Even Ruth Carter – who has had plenty of experience with young people over the years because of her close involvement with her children and grandchildren – sounded a little surprised when she told me, 'They actually seemed to care about me and to be interested in what I was saying.'"

Also pleased with the program's outcome was Musto, who saw this chance for his government students to hear firsthand accounts of the seniors' experiences as a wonderful opportunity.

"When my students take their social science MEAP [Michigan Educational Assessment Program] next year, one of the things that they'll be tested on will be the concept of democratic values," Musto explained. "Hearing from people who have literally lived America's history; learning to respect each member of society and his place within it; discovering the role that communication and understanding play in working toward the common good. . . . What could be a better lesson in democratic values than that?" □

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Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, Senior Citizens Program Coordinator for the City of Romulus, and Audry Moomaw, Manager of the Romulus Tower, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column.

(Note: For more information about events at the Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins, call 942-6852.) **Free Blood-pressure Screening and Hypertension Seminar**

You need not be a resident of the Romulus Tower (located at 36500 Bibbins in downtown Romulus) to attend a blood-pressure screening and hypertension seminar that will be held Monday, May 17, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Guest speaker will be Dawn Gramza, R.N., of the Visiting Nurse Association.

The event is free to seniors age 62 and over.

For more information, please call Audry Moomaw, Romulus Tower Manager, at 734-942-1230.

"Safe Senior" Day

On Friday, April 30, organizations such as the Romulus Senior Center, the Romulus Fire Department, and the Romulus Police Department, as well as individuals such as Lynn Pratt (aka "Karate Lady"), will join numerous other senior-citizen centers, law-enforcement agencies, and senior-oriented groups to participate in "Safe Senior Day" at Southland Center.

The event—scheduled to take place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.—will feature guest speakers discussing subjects such as phone slamming, self-defense for seniors, and cons and swindles; handouts; giveaways; and more than 20 information booths with materials on topics like telephone fraud, personal and home safety, medical prevention and safety, and abuse prevention.

There is no charge to attend "Safe Senior Day," so be sure to take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about making senior living happier and safer. For more information, or for a schedule of events, stop in at the Senior Center.

Baby Photos Wanted

The Center is asking seniors to bring in baby photos of themselves (ages seven and under) for a "match the baby to the senior" contest that will be held during the Mother's Day Luncheon, set for sometime next month. Photos must be brought to the Center by the end of April; all will be returned within a couple of days, since the Center will be making copies for the contest.

Sam's Club Memberships

Until the end of April, Sam's Club is offering a special two-person membership for only \$15. More information about this great deal, plus free one-day passes, are now available at the Center.

Special Trips

Seniors interested in more information about these or other special trips that have been planned by the Romulus Senior Center should call Linda Norman at 942-6852. (Please note: Deposits reserve your seat for any bus trip. Complete payment is due at least two weeks prior to departure for day trips; for overnight trips, payment is due at least 30 days prior to departure. Checks may be made payable to the City of Romulus or the tour company.)

- **Tulip Festival** (May 14; \$62)
- **Casino Windsor** (June 8; \$21)
- **The True North (Ontario, Canada)** (July 18-24; \$699)
- **African Lion Safari (Cambridge, Ontario)** (July 23; \$59)
- **Uncle Tom's Cabin (Dresden, Ontario)** (September 15; \$50)

Exercise/Toning

The Senior Center invites you to drop in at any of its free toning/stretching/aerobic exercise classes, which are held on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays at 9:15 a.m. Refreshments will be served. The Center recommends that all participants wear comfortable clothing, and urges anyone unused to physical exertion to consult a physician before beginning.

Tai Chi for Seniors

Following the Tai Chi demonstration that was put on at the Center last month, several seniors have expressed an interest in this Eastern form of exercise, meditation, and relaxation. To get a better idea of just how much interest is really out there, the Center has put out a questionnaire on the subject. Be sure to stop in and fill one out if you would like to see such a program get started.

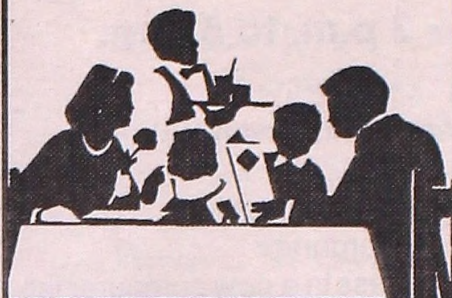
Weekly Programs

The Romulus Senior Center has a full schedule of weekly programs for senior citizens' enjoyment. Come in on your own or bring a friend for ceramics (Mondays at 1 and 6 p.m.); exercise (Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays at 9:15 a.m.); Club #1 meetings (Tuesdays at 11 a.m.); euchre (Tuesdays at 1 p.m.); bingo (Wednesdays at 1 p.m.); and pinochle (Thursdays at 1 p.m.). □

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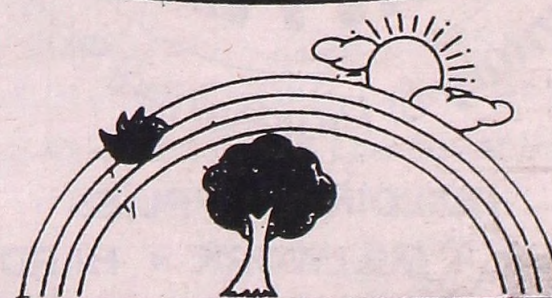
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Obituaries

Dr. Ray Elwart

Dr. Ray Elwart of Wayne, Michigan, died on Tuesday, April 20, 1999. He was 73 years old.

A native of Ecorse, Michigan, Ray was born on March 4, 1926. He was a well-known figure in Romulus, Michigan, where he practiced chiropractic medicine until 1998.

Surviving Ray are his wife, Mary Elwart; his son, Dr. Daniel (and his wife Dolly) Elwart (Dearborn Heights, MI); two daughters, Dr. Linda Atkinson (Romulus, MI) and Dr. Cynthia (and her husband Michael) Shaft (Plymouth, MI); one brother, Dr. Walter Elwartowski (Phoenix, AZ); one sister, Geraldine Roberts (Winter Springs, FL); 17 grand-

children, Jason Elwart, Joshua Elwart, Shane Elwart, Jacob Elwart, Scott Elwart, Sher Elwart, Jackie Elwart, Joy Elwart, Devin Atkinson, Derek Atkinson, Jeremy Shaft, Heather Shaft, Ben Shaft, Jonathon Shaft, Jordan Shaft, Alexis Shaft, and Kayla Shaft; and five great-grandchildren, Emily Elwart, Olivia Elwart, Abigail Elwart, Sabrina Elwart, and Zachery Elwart. Parents Anthony and Mary Elwartowski predeceased him.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, April 23, at St. Aloysius Catholic Church (Romulus, MI), with Father Richard Thomson officiating. Interment will be at Fort Custer National Cemetery (Augusta, MI).

Pauline "Polly" F. (Wilson) Roksandich



Polly Roksandich

former Michigan Bell telephone operator and Universal Airline employee. She was active in the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Ladies Auxiliary (Post #9568, Romulus, MI), and was a lifetime member of the Community United Methodist Church (Romulus, MI).

Surviving Polly are her son, Bruce G. Roksandich (Romulus, MI); two daughters, Mrs. Mark (Brenda) Meredith (Pinckney, MI) and Ms. Sharon Marcell (Romulus, MI); one brother, Gerald Wilson (Canton, MI); three sisters, Mrs. Ray (Shirley) Lombardi (Weidman, MI), Mrs. Jim (Joanne) Whaley (Romulus, MI), and Mrs. Barbara McMann (Romulus, MI); four grandchildren, Anthony Roksandich, Suzanne McDermott, Justin Becker, and Bryan Marcell; three great-grandchildren, Amanda McDermott, Savanna McDermott, and Steven Becker; 14 nieces and nephews; one brother-in-law, Steven Roksandich; and one sister-in-law, Julia Chamberlin. She was predeceased by her husband, Ranko "Rocky" Roksandich, as well as brothers Robert and Jack Wilson, sister Geraldine Brothers, and grandson Jacob Becker.

Polly also will be sorely missed by her many friends, including Joe and Grace Kutcher (Bergland, MI; formerly of Romulus, MI) and Sharon Cant (Romulus, MI).

"Polly was a good friend to my late mother and me," said Cant. "I shall miss the knowledge she purveyed on local history and world events."

A funeral service was held on Friday, April 16, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with the Reverend William Kren (Community United Methodist Church, Romulus, MI) officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock, MI). Memorial tributes may be made to VFW Post #9568 (Romulus, MI). □



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Military Service

Spc. Charles A. Wilkerson

Specialist Charles A. Wilkerson – the son of Edward L. and Lorraine Wilkerson of Romulus, and a 1992 graduate of Romulus High School – was deployed to Bosnia for eight months, joining Operation Joint Forge Task Force, Camp McGovern APO, AE09789. Wilkerson is with the 1st of the 12th Cavalry Division from Fort Hood, Texas.

Anyone wishing to send a message to Wilkerson or any of the other servicemen and -women there can visit the Task Force's web page on the internet (<http://www.tfeagle.army.mil/index.htm>).

"The Task Force web site is there for all to visit," said Lorraine Wilkerson. "Send some cheer to our troops. They need our support." □



Spc. Charles A. Wilkerson

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Pastor's Anniversary

Concert Honors Whitehead

The congregation of the Saint City Church of God in Christ and the Saint City & Whitehead Concert Chorus are inviting the community to a musical celebration to be held at 6 p.m. on Sunday, May 2, at the church (7335 Washington, one block south of Ecorse) in honor of their pastor and first lady, Elder James Whitehead, Jr., and Mollie Whitehead.

Special-guest performers for the evening will be renowned recording artists Derrick Milan & the Peter's Rock Mass Choir of Detroit. Winners of the McDonald's Gospelfest in 1998, the group also has appeared in plays such as *Mama Don't Preacher Man*, and *Come Out of the Rain*, and has shared the stage with gospel greats such as Kirk Franklin, John P. Kee, and the Clark Sisters. Their new album and video – recorded live in Detroit – are scheduled for release in the near future.

For more information, please call the church at 734-595-0629. □



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